



1731

## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Kenichiro YANO et al.

Art Group: 1731

Application No.: 09/926,709

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: December 5, 2001

Atty. Dkt. No.: 103176-00001

For: ASSISTANT FOR DIGESTING LIGNOCELLULOSE  
MATERIAL AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING PULPSECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231RECEIVED  
MAY 02 2002  
TC 1700

April 29, 2002

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows. A marked-up copy of the paragraph is included in the attachment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

A second assistant for digesting a lignocellulose material of the invention comprises a nonionic surfactant (B) obtained by addition of an alkylene oxide to an aliphatic alcohol, said nonionic surfactant (B) comprising one or more compounds represented by the general formula (3):



wherein  $R^5$  is a straight-chain, branched or cyclic aliphatic hydrocarbyl group containing 4-24 carbon atoms;  $p$  is an addition molar number of 4-20;  $A^2$  is an alkylene group